

[ a control mechanism coupled to said heat exchanger for enabling adjustable control of therapy temperature.--

<sup>2</sup>  
--~~9~~. The therapy apparatus of claim <sup>1</sup>~~8~~, wherein said heat exchanger comprises means for delivering a predetermined volume of fluid from said thermal reservoir into said recirculating fluid loop.--

<sup>3</sup>  
--~~10~~. The therapy apparatus of claim <sup>1</sup>~~8~~, wherein said therapy pad includes a flexible surface and wherein said control mechanism is coupled to said pump for enabling adjustable control of fluid pressure in said therapy pad.--

a <sup>4</sup>  
--~~11~~. The therapy apparatus of claim <sup>3</sup>~~10~~, wherein said control mechanism is adapted to vary pressure of recirculating fluid within said therapy pad in a manner to apply tactile stimulation to a therapy site by increasing and decreasing fluid pressure in said therapy pad.--

<sup>5</sup>  
--~~12~~. The therapy apparatus of claim <sup>1</sup>~~8~~, wherein said control mechanism comprises an alarm adapted to actuate whenever said thermal reservoir lacks thermal capacity to maintain a predetermined therapy temperature.--

<sup>6</sup>  
--~~13~~. The therapy apparatus of claim <sup>1</sup>~~8~~, wherein said recirculating fluid loop comprises a first temperature sensor for monitoring therapy temperature.--

<sup>7</sup>  
--~~14~~. The therapy apparatus of claim ~~13~~<sup>6</sup>, wherein said control mechanism comprises control electronics for said heat exchanger, said control electronics being coupled to said first temperature sensor, user-operated controls and a display for manual selection and visual confirmation of therapy temperature, said control electronics comprising an associated operating program and means for programming, storing and retrieving a therapy temperature-time profile for implementing therapy temperature control.--

*a*  
<sup>8</sup>  
--~~15~~. The apparatus of claim ~~14~~<sup>7</sup>, wherein said control electronics further comprises means for determining a time-varying therapy temperature specified in said therapy temperature-time profile in real time for implementing therapy temperature control.--

<sup>9</sup>  
--~~16~~. The apparatus of claim ~~15~~<sup>8</sup>, wherein said control electronics further comprises means for comparing time-varying therapy temperature applied at said therapy site to a temperature specified in said therapy temperature-time profile in real time for implementing closed-loop therapy temperature control.--

<sup>10</sup>  
--~~17~~. The therapy apparatus of claim ~~14~~<sup>7</sup>, wherein said control electronics further comprises an alarm for warning a user when said thermal reservoir lacks thermal capacity to maintain therapy temperature.--